UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,165	08/28/2003	Curtis Reese	100202879-1	7054

22879   7590   05/14/2008
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EXAMINER
PHAM, THIERRY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/14/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 March 2008*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,10-13 and 16-21* is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,10-13 and 16-21* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

● This action is responsive to the following communication: RCE filed on 3/10/08.

● Claims 1-5, 10-13, 16-21 are now pending; claims 6-9, 14-15 have been canceled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/10/08 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5, 10-13, 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hemstreet et al (US 6931447).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). 83This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claim 1, Hemstreet discloses a method for remotely monitoring a printer status (printer status monitoring, fig. 2), comprising the steps of:

● displaying a list of selectable printer status objects (selectable status objects, fig. 2) on a display device (monitor, fig. 3) in a remote client in data communication with a printer, wherein a name of each of the printer status objects is displayed in a printer management language native (status server 109 is a server component application using PML language, col. 6, lines 58-67) to the printer;

● selecting one of the printer status objects from the list of selectable printer status objects (status event, fig. 2) in the remote client;

● generating an email (generating status request email, fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60) in the remote client (client 111, fig. 1a);

● writing a status request into the email (email format, fig. 1a and 4a-44f) in a printer management language native (col. 11, lines 25-35) to the printer, the status request requesting a current status of the selected one of the printer status object in the printer;

● transmitting (transmitting via network, fig. 1a) the email to the printer; and

● receiving a reply email (sample reply email from printer, fig. 3) from the printer that includes the current status (e.g. ink status, fig. 3) of the selected one of printer status objects in the printer, the current status being expressed in the printer management language native to the printer.

      Regarding claim 2, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

● generating an initial email in the remote client (fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60);

● writing a request for the list of selectable printer status objects (e.g. fig. 2) into the initial email;

● receiving an initial reply email (fig. 2-3) from the printer, the initial reply including the list of selectable printer status objects; and

● parsing the initial reply email to obtain the list of selectable printer status objects (fig. 2-3) fro3m the initial reply email.

Regarding claim 3, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining the list of selectable printer status objects from a server (server 107, notes: server 107 is embedded in printer 105) in data communication with the remote client.

Regarding claim 4, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: parsing the reply email to identify the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects (fig. 3); and displaying the current status associated with the selected one of the printer status objects (fig. 3).

Regarding claim 5, Hemstreet further discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the reply email with the current status (fig. 3) of the printer status object.

Regarding claim 10, Hemstreet further discloses a system (system, fig. 1a) for remotely monitoring printer status, comprising:

● a processor circuit (client 111, fig. 1a) having a processor and a memory;

● a remote printer management system (server 107, fig. 1b) stored in the memory and executable by the processor, the printer monitoring system comprising:

● a logic that displays a list of selectable printer status objects (selectable status objects, fig. 2) on a display device (client's monitor, fig. 3) in a remote client in data communication with a printer, wherein a name of each of the printer status objects is displayed in a printer management language native (status server 109 is a server component application using PML language, col. 6, lines 58-67) to the printer;

● logic that facilitates a selection of one of the printer status objects from among the list of selectable printer status objects (lists of selectable objects, fig. 2);

• logic that generates an email (generating status request email, fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60) to be transmitted to a printer;

• logic that writes a request for a status of the printer status object in the printer into the email (email format, fig. 1a and 4a-44f), the request being expressed in a printer management language native to the printer; and

• logic that transmits (transmitting via network, fig. 1a) the email to the printer to receive a reply email (reply email includes printer's status, fig. 3) from the printer that includes the current status of the selected one of the printer status objects in the printer.

Regarding claim 11, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

• logic that generates an initial email (fig. 1a and fig. 2, col. 8, lines 16-60)to be transmitted to the printer;

• logic that writes a request for the list of selectable printer status objects (e.g. fig. 2) into the initial email; and

• logic that parses an initial reply email (fig. 3) received from the printer to identify the list of selectable printer status objects included in the initial reply email.

Regarding claim 12, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises logic that requests the list of selectable printer status objects (fig. 3) from a server through a network.

Regarding claim 13, Hemstreet further discloses the system of claim 10, wherein the remote printer management system further comprises:

• logic that parses the reply email to identify the current status of the printer status object (fig. 3) included therein; and

● logic that displays the current status (fig. 3) associated with the printer status object.

Regarding claims 16-19 recite limitation that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claims 1-4 above; therefore, claims 16-19 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claims 1-4.

Regarding claims 20-21 recite limitation that are similar and in the same scope of invention as to those in claim 1 above; therefore, claims 20-21 are rejected for the same rejection rationale/basis as described in claim 1.

Response to Arguments

● Applicant's arguments filed 3/10/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
● Regarding claims 1, 10, 16, 20-21, the applicants argued the cited prior art of record (US 6931447 to Hemstreet et al) fail to teach and/or suggest displaying a selectable status objects in printer management language.

In response, the examiner fully disagrees. Embedded server 107 as shown in fig. 1B also includes a status server comprising a utility for querying device status using PML (printer management language). "In general, the Status Server 109 component is a server application using **PML language** that abstracts the devices operations and connections thereto for one or more physical printers 104, **allowing one or more remote Clients 111 to determine the status of features thereof.** In the context of the present invention, the Status Server 109 component provides a portal having data representing each printer 105 operational state in a client-server model. In the main, the Status Server 109 component transposes device specific language, e.g. HP-PML formatted device driver, into a PML language for use by the other Server 107 components. In essence, it is an analogous to a multiplexer for permitting and managing data for a plurality of local clients to communicate with the same printer without having to resort to Microsoft COM programming. It does not however permit cross-firewall printer management in and of itself (note process boundary 131)".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THIERRY L. PHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-7439. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30 AM - 6:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571)272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thierry L Pham/

Acting Examiner of Art Unit 2625

/Dov Popovici/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625